

truth of Scripture on a given subject, and when they are illuminated by experience and by the wisdom of others, they are certain to respond with fresh, vigorous, and helpful thoughts, which are an Endeavorer's best contribution to the welfare of his society's weekly service.

The Christian Life

The Coming Of His Feet

In the crimson of the morning, in the whiteness of the noon,

In the amber glory of the day's retreat;

In the midnight, robed in darkness, or the gleaming of the moon,

I listen to the coming of his feet.

Down the minster-aisles of splendor, from betwixt the cherubim,

Thru the wandering throng, with motion strong and fleet,

Sounds his victor tread, approaching with a music far and dim—

The music of the coming of his feet.

Sandaled not with sheen of silver, girded not with woven gold,

Weighted not with shimmering gems and odors sweet,

But white-winged and shod with glory in the Tabor-light of old—

The glory of the coming of his feet.

He is coming, O my spirit, with his everlasting peace
With his blessedness immortal and complete:

He is coming, O my spirit! and his coming brings release,

I listen for the coming of his feet.—*The Independent.*

The Copying of Christ

Selected.

The psalmist says: "I have set the Lord always before me." During the last days of that splendid specimen of a Scotchman, Prof. John Stuart Blackie, he often said to his friends: "Look Christ in the face; in all things note what Christ did in like circumstances, and do as he would have done on earth."

What Is a Christian?

Ian Maclaren.

Christ did not come to cramp any one's manhood; he came to broaden it. He did not come to destroy our manhood; he came to fulfill it. A thoroughgoing Christian is a man with a stronger reason, kinder heart, firmer will, and richer imagination than his fellows—one who has attained this height in Christ. A bigot, or a prig, or a weakling is a half developed Christian, one not yet arrived at full age.

What ought a Christian to read? Every book which feeds the intellect. Where ought he to go? Every place where the moral atmosphere is pure and bracing. What ought he to do? Everything that will make character. Religion is not negative, a giving up this or that, but positive, a getting and a possessing. If a man will be content with nothing but the best thought, best work, best friends, best environment, he need not trouble about avoiding the worst. The good drives out the bad. There are two ways of lighting a dark room; one is to attack the darkness with candles; the other is to open

the shutters and let in the light. When light comes, darkness goes. There are two ways of forming character; one is to conquer our sins, the other is to cultivate the opposite virtues. The latter plan is best because it is surest—the virtue replaces the sin.

Christianity is not a drill; it is life, full, free, radiant, and rejoicing. What a young man should do is not to vex himself about his imperfections, but to fix his mind on the bright image of Perfection; not to weary his soul with rules, but to live with Christ as one liveth with a friend. There is one way to complete manhood, and that is, fellowship with Jesus Christ.

He Goeth Before

Dr. J. R. Macduff.

"He goeth before you"—Matt. 28:7

"He goeth before us!" Is it infancy? He went before us there, in being himself the Babe of Bethlem! Is it youth? He "goeth before us" in the nurturing home of Nazareth, sanctifying early toil and filial obedience! Is it hours of weakness and faintness and poverty? He "goeth before us" an exhausted traveler to the well of Jacob, "weary with his journey!" Is it temptation we have to struggle with? He "goeth before us" to the wilderness of Judea, and to the awful depths of the olive groves of Gethsemane, to grapple with the hour and power of darkness! Is it loss of friends? He "goeth before us" to the grave of Bethany to weep there! Is it death (the last enemy) we dread? He "goeth before us" wrapped in the cerements of the tomb, descending into the region of Hades, uncrowning the king of terrors, trampling his diadem in the dust! Is it entrance into heaven? He "goeth before us" there. Having overcome the sharpness of death, he has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. He shows us the path of life leading into his blessed presence, where there is fullness of joy, and to his right hand, where there are pleasures for evermore.

Joint Heirs with Christ

Selected.

A dying judge, the day before his departure to be with Christ, said to his pastor, "Do you know enough about law to understand what is meant by joint-tendency?"

"No," was the reply, "I know nothing about law, I know a little about grace and that satisfies me."

"Well," he said, "if you and I were joint tenants on a farm, I could not say to you, that is your hill of corn and this is mine; that is your blade of grass, and this is mine; but we would share and share alike in everything on the place. I have just been lying here, and thinking with unspeakable joy, that Jesus Christ has nothing apart from me, and everything he has is mine, and will share and share alike thru all eternity."

When God Is Silent

Sunday School Times.

However greatly we may rejoice to hear the voice of God, there are times when the soul welcomes the silence which God keeps.

When remembered sin urgently presses upon our thought, when remorse is keen, and despair is almost master for the moment, God may mercifully allow the grief to pass with never a word from him. His comfort would shame us sorely, and his censure would only deepen the shadow. As a loving father waits in silence while the tempest of contrition sweeps over his dear son, and then lets his love shine in thru the scattered clouds; so our heavenly Father gently keeps us close to himself until the passion is overpast, and then what earnest of his love he gives us in conscious nearness to him, in peace and quiet, and in his promise of forgetfulness! "He will not always chide." Nor will he always speak words of comfort. He will do at the moment what is most needful for us, and the silence of God may well be the comfort we most need at such a time.

A Prayer

DANIEL GARNETT BICKERS

Dear Lord, I do not pray

The load be lifted from my weary heart—

There is a nobler way;

I would not with one single burden part.

Thou knowest best

When I may lay this duty down

And calmly rest,

Or take for weary cross a welcome crown.

But this I pray for strength

And grace to bear e'en more

Of burdens thru the length

Of life, and trials sore,

For added pow'r to bear

Not only mine, but others' crosses, too,

Of sorrow and of care—

Aye, I would do e'en more—

I crave but strength to do.—*In His Steps.*

The Mission Field

Speed, Heralds of Our King!

REV. H. S. DUNNING

Speed, heralds of our King,

To earth's remotest bound;

On love's swift-pulsing wing

The joyful tidings bring,

Till newborn souls shall sing,

And Christ o'er all be crowned.

Speed, messengers of light,

O'er ocean's billowy ways;

Then, in Jehovah's might,

Bid wrong give place to right,

And rend the Stygian night

With heaven's celestial rays.

Then come, Thou Savior mine,

And reign from shore to shore;

Assume Thy right divine,

And make earth's scepter Thine—

The powers of hell confine

To curse the world no more!

—*New Work Observer.*

Our Duty Towards Missions

The British Messenger.

"Go." What nobler, what happier life can be lived than that of obedience to the Lord's command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel!" By all means, let all who are called of God to such a privileged life, go!

"Send Messengers." It is a serious matter to hinder those who are called to the mission field. Let the sacrifice be ever so great, beware how you interfere with a clear call of the Lord. Moreover, let us gladly help by sympathy and by supplying the means. "Send Messages." Missionaries and evangelists